

Army Lists Only 343 Subversives

By Jack Anderson

After all their snooping into people's private lives, Army gumshoes have accumulated millions of dossiers but have found only 343 bona fide subversives on the Army rolls.

The Army's confidential records refer to them as "known dissenters." Another 106 "suspected dissenters" have been added to the confidential subversive list, which is known inside the Pentagon as the RITA file. The initials stand for "Resistance in The Army."

The number of resident radicals in the Army, incidentally, declined from 527 at the beginning of 1970 to only 389 at the end of the year. The figure continued to dwindle last month to the present 343 level.

With the added 106 suspects, those whom the Army now tends to regard as subversives total 449. They are scattered at Army posts around the world. There is even one in the Army's supersecret Strategic Communications Command in Washington, D.C.

There are 110 alleged subversives in the Pacific, 42 in Europe, eight in Alaska and two in Latin America. The rest are stationed at 47 Army installations throughout the U.S.

The most subversives at a single base, according to the confidential records, are found at Ft. Bragg, N.C., which has 43 names in the RITA file.

There are also an extraordinary number of radicals in Texas—18 at Ft. Hood, 14 at Ft. Bliss and 13 at Ft. Sam Houston.

The Army's subversives list also shows the following at area or nearby installations: seven at Ft. Eustis, Va.; six at Ft. Jackson, S.C.; six at Ft. Meade, Md.; five at Edgewood Arsenal, Md.; four at Ft. Belvoir, Va.; four at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.; four at Ft. Holabird, Md.; two at Ft. Myer, Va.; two at Valley Forge General Hospital, Pa.; one at Vint Hills Farm Station, Va.

Meanwhile, the Army has derogatory information on millions of loyal Americans in its snoop file. Other government agencies have also compiled dossiers and blacklists, which are freely exchanged between federal agencies. The traffic in unproven allegations has been promiscuous. Not only are the dossiers widely circulated but most of them carry a low security classification. This gives an alarming number of government employees access to derogatory details about their fellow citizens.

White House Wine

To the dismay of American winemakers, President Nixon serves French and German wines almost exclusively at White House soirees.

This violates the drinking

decrees of his own administration which, in the cause of patriotism of the palate, encourages officials to ply their guests with all-American wines.

The State Department, for its part, has issued a stern memo on the subject. Diplomats who throw parties for their country are instructed to serve American wines "to reduce the balance of payments problem as well as to stimulate market interest in American wines abroad."

The wine orders for President Nixon's *de rigueur* affairs, however, are prepared in woeful disregard for the balance of payments. He traitorously offers German Schloss Johannisberg and French Chateau Margaux to visiting dignitaries.

John F. Kennedy, who was fond enough of wines, and Lyndon B. Johnson, who preferred Scotch to Sancerre, always served American wines at the White House.

The change in the White House winelist is particularly galling to the Republicans who represent America's wine country in Congress. Not only does their own President favor foreign wines, but he is a native of California where most of the grape vines grow.

Wine Rebellion

Don Clausen, the congressman from California's Napa

Valley, who demonstrates his own loyalty by keeping bottle of American Cabernet Sauvignon and Chenin Blanc in his congressional liquor cabinet in place of the usual whiskey has registered a vigorous dissent over Mr. Nixon's win policies.

Clausen is a loyal Republican who has backed the President on everything from Saigon to the SST. The least the President can do in return Clausen feels, is drink Napa Valley wine.

In a private letter to the President, Clausen last week appealed: "The issue at stake Mr. President, is not so much one of excluding foreign wines rather a desire to put America first in this field. We would hope that, where possible, a minimum ratio of two American to one foreign wine serving be the policy unless, of course, there are some unusual or extenuating diplomatic circumstances."

He conceded, for instance that it would be "appropriate to serve French wines" if France's President Pompidou or to offer German wines to "high officials from Germany." But to serve foreign wines to dignitaries from wineless countries, he felt was absolutely abhorrent.